

Lesson Topic – Violence

That's Good to Know – Let God deal with the violent.

Bible Lesson – Noah and the flood. Genesis 6:5 – 7:24

Spoken Word – “You destroy yourself by being cruel and violent and refusing to live right.” Proverbs 21:7

Parent Corner –

There seems to be violence everywhere around us. As Christians, what should our response be? How do we respond when violence is directed at us? Do we respond any differently if the violence is directed at others? There are many different responses in the Bible to the problem of violence. Sometimes people of faith were instructed to destroy the violent. In other places, God specified that He was to exact revenge. At other times children of God were told not to repay evil for evil. Jesus once told His servants to buy swords, while another time He told them to turn the other cheek. Yet all these incidents carry one common thread: They teach us to **let God deal with the violent**. God is the One who will give us wisdom for how to respond to the violence we see around us. God is the One who will gain revenge and repay the violence.

God has promised that if we are His, then He will fight for us. God is more than able to deal with the evil and violent people in the world. As people of faith we are required to trust Him – even in the face of violence. Faith will grow in our lives when we trust God to deal with the violence that attacks us and others.

Kids need to know how to deal with violence, especially in today's world of crime, war and terrorism. Every situation is different, yet the same God is Lord of all and in control. That's what we want your children to grasp from today's lesson: God is in control, and we can trust Him to deal with the violent. God may use us to bring about His justice, or He may ask us to extend grace and watch Him do a supernatural work in a violent person's heart. Regardless of what God does, our job is to keep a pure and forgiving heart and to pray! We must instill in our young people the certainty that God will always deal with them. The battle is the Lord's, and we dare not take matters into our own hands. God is a just God, and He will take care of those things in His way and in His time.